

helps clean the bloodstream of toxic waste, or a kidney transplant.

On June 11, 2011, I will attend the American Kidney Fund's "Steps that Count" walk at Nationals Park here to raise awareness of kidney disease and to call on the residents of the District to get screened for it. I ask the House to join me on June 11, 2011, to recognize Kidney Action Day in the District of Columbia and to urge Americans to get screened for kidney disease.

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TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL EDWARD  
PERKINS

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 3, 2011*

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, it is with heart-felt sadness that I note the recent passing of

Mr. Michael Edward Perkins, a well known athlete and martial arts expert from Saraland, Alabama.

Michael Perkins passed away May 14, 2011, after fighting a constant battle with cystic fibrosis since infancy. He was only 27.

He was known around the community as a devoted and inspiring husband to his wife, Kellee Jones Perkins, and a proud father to their infant daughter, Piper Catherine.

Michael will be remembered in so many ways. Not only did he love being outdoors and enjoying other recreational activities, he received a Black Belt in two different martial arts.

He also donated much time helping teach children at Cottage Hill Baptist Church, and will be remembered as an encouraging, buoyant young man. Everyone who knew Michael has an inspiring or humorous story they can retell.

Even when Michael was extremely ill, he never let his own problems affect his otherwise positive outlook on life and he was always bending over backwards for family and friends.

Mr. Speaker, all who knew Michael personally will surely miss him, and South Alabama has truly lost a beloved member of the community. Michael Perkins was inspiration to young and old alike.

On behalf of the people of South Alabama, I would like to extend my condolences to his wife, Kellee, and their daughter, Piper Catherine, for their loss. You are in our thoughts and prayers.